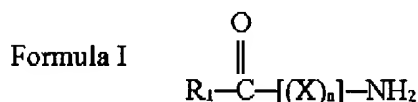


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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) An antimicrobial peptide represented by Formula I:



wherein $n=2$ and $[(\text{X})_2]$ is Arg-Trp; and

~~X is any natural or non natural, modified or unmodified amino acid except glutamate or aspartate;~~

~~n 1 to 5;~~

~~wherein:~~

~~(a) when $n=1$, then~~

~~said peptide comprises a cationic amino acid;~~

~~the charge of said peptide at neutral pH is ± 4 ;~~

~~R₁ is C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; C₃-C₆ cycloalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkenyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkynyl; C₁-C₂₀ haloalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ haloalkenyl; C₃-C₂₀ haloalkynyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkoxyalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkylthioalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkylsulfinylalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkylsulfonylalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ cycloalkylalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkenyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkynyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ (cycloalkyl) oxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkenylthioalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkynylthioalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ (cycloalkyl) thioalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ haloalkoxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ haloalkenyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ haloalkynyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkoxyalkenyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkoxyalkynyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkylthioalkenyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkylthioalkynyl; C₄-C₂₀ trialkylsilylalkyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkyl substituted with NR₃R₄, nitro, cyano, or phenyl optionally substituted with R₅, R₆, and R₇; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ haloalkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylthio; C₁-C₂₀ haloalkylthio; NR₃R₄, or phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, furanyl, thienyl, naphthyl, pyrimidinyl, benzo-furanyl, benzo-thienyl, or quinolinyl each optionally substituted with R₅, R₆ or R₇;~~

~~R₃ is independently hydrogen; C₁-C₄ alkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted with at least~~

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one R_3 ;

R_4 is independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, or phenyl optionally substituted with at least one R_3 ;

R_5 is independently C_1 - C_6 alkyl; C_1 - C_6 alkoxy; C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl; halogen; C_2 - C_6 alkynyl; C_1 - C_6 thioalkyl; phenyl or phenoxy each optionally substituted with at least one R_3 ; cyano; nitro; C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy; C_1 - C_6 haloalkylthio; C_2 - C_6 alkenyl; C_2 - C_6 haloalkenyl; acetyl; CO_2CH_3 ; or $N(C_2$ -alkyl) $_2$;

R_6 is independently methyl; ethyl; methoxy; methylthio; halogen; or trifluoromethyl;

R_7 is independently halogen; and

R_8 is independently halogen; C_1 - C_4 alkyl; C_1 - C_4 alkoxy; C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl; nitro; or cyano;

(b) when $n=2$ or 3, then

at least one of the amino acids is a cationic amino acid;

the net charge of said peptide at neutral pH is at least +1;

wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_1 - C_9 alkyl; and C_3 - C_6 cycloalkyl; and
; C_4 - C_6 alkenyl; C_4 - C_6 alkynyl; C_1 - C_6 haloalkyl; C_2 - C_6 haloalkenyl; C_2 - C_6 haloalkynyl; C_2 - C_6 alkoxyalkyl; C_2 - C_6 alkylthioalkyl; C_2 - C_6 alkylsulfinylalkyl; C_2 - C_6 alkylsulfonylalkyl; C_2 - C_6 cycloalkylalkyl; C_4 - C_6 alkenyloxyalkyl; C_4 - C_6 alkynyloxyalkyl; C_4 - C_6 (cycloalkyl) oxyalkyl; C_4 - C_6 alkenylthioalkyl; C_4 - C_6 alkynylthioalkyl; C_4 - C_6 (cycloalkyl) thioalkyl; C_2 - C_6 haloalkoxyalkyl; C_4 - C_6 haloalkenyloxyalkyl; C_4 - C_6 haloalkynyloxyalkyl; C_4 - C_6 alkoxyalkenyl; C_4 - C_6 alkoxyalkynyl; C_4 - C_6 alkylthioalkenyl; C_4 - C_6 alkylthioalkynyl; C_4 - C_6 trialkylsilylalkyl; C_1 - C_9 alkyl substituted with NR_2R_4 , nitro, cyano, or phenyl optionally substituted with R_3 , R_6 , and R_7 ; C_1 - C_6 alkoxy; C_1 - C_6 haloalkoxy; C_4 - C_6 alkylthio; C_4 - C_6 haloalkylthio; NR_2R_4 ; or phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, furanyl, thienyl, naphthyl, pyrimidinyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, or quinolinyl each optionally substituted with R_3 , R_6 or R_7 ;

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~~R₂ is independently hydrogen; C₁-C₄ alkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted with at least one R₅;~~

~~R₄ is independently hydrogen; C₁-C₈ alkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted with at least one R₅~~

~~R₃ is independently C₁-C₆ alkyl; C₁-C₆ alkoxy; C₁-C₆ haloalkyl; halogen; C₂-C₄ alkynyl; C₁-C₆ thioalkyl; phenyl or phenoxy each optionally substituted with at least one R₅; cyano; nitro; C₁-C₆ haloalkoxy; C₁-C₆ haloalkylthio; C₂-C₆ alkenyl; C₂-C₆ haloalkenyl; acetyl; CO₂CH₃; or N(C₁-C₂ alkyl)₂;~~

~~R₆ is independently methyl; ethyl; methoxy; methylthio; halogen; or trifluoromethyl;~~

~~R₇ is independently halogen; and~~

~~R₈ is independently halogen; C₁-C₄ alkyl; C₁-C₄ alkoxy; C₁-C₄ haloalkyl; nitro; or cyano;~~

(c) n=4 or 5, then

~~at least two of the amino acids are cationic amino acids;~~

~~the net charge of the peptide at neutral pH is at least +2;~~

~~R₁ is C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; C₂-C₆ cycloalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkenyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkynyl; C₁-C₂₀ haloalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ haloalkenyl; C₂-C₂₀ haloalkynyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkoxyalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkylthioalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkylsulfinylalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ alkylsulfonylalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ cycloalkylalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkenyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkynyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ (cycloalkyl) oxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkenylthioalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkynylthioalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ (cycloalkyl) thioalkyl; C₂-C₂₀ haloalkoxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ haloalkenyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ haloalkynyloxyalkyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkoxyalkenyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkoxyalkynyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkylthioalkenyl; C₄-C₂₀ alkylthioalkynyl; C₄-C₂₀ trialkylsilylalkyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkyl substituted with NR₃R₄, nitro, cyano, or phenyl optionally substituted with R₅, R₆, and R₇; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ haloalkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylthio; C₁-C₂₀ haloalkylthio; NR₃R₄; or phenyl, benzyl, pyridyl, furanyl, thienyl, naphthyl, pyrimidinyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, or quinoliny each optionally~~

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substituted with R_3 , R_4 or R_5 ;

R_3 is independently hydrogen; C_1 - C_4 alkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted with at least one R_3 ;

R_4 is independently hydrogen; C_1 - C_4 alkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted with at least one R_3 ;

R_5 is independently C_1 - C_4 alkyl; C_1 - C_4 alkoxy; C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl; halogen; C_2 - C_4 alkynyl; C_1 - C_4 thioalkyl; phenyl or phenoxy each optionally substituted with at least one R_3 ; cyano; nitro; C_1 - C_4 haloalkoxy; C_1 - C_4 haloalkylthio; C_2 - C_4 alkenyl; C_2 - C_4 haloalkenyl; acetyl; CO_2CH_3 ; or $N(C_1-C_2\text{ alkyl})_2$;

R_6 is independently methyl; ethyl; methoxy; methylthio; halogen; or trifluoromethyl;

R_7 is independently halogen; and

R_8 is independently halogen; C_1 - C_4 alkyl; C_1 - C_4 alkoxy; C_1 - C_4 haloalkyl; nitro; or cyano.

wherein the antimicrobial peptide inhibits the growth of a microbe selected from the group consisting of bacteria, archaea, fungi, algae, protozoa, multicellular parasites and viruses.

Claim 2. (cancelled)

Claim 3. (cancelled)

Claim 4. (cancelled)

Claim 5. (cancelled)

Claim 6. (original) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 1 wherein said peptide is incorporated into a polymer.

Claim 7. (original) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 6 wherein said polymer is selected from the group consisting of a polysaccharide, a glycol polymer, a polyester, a polyurethane, a polyacrylate, a polyacrylonitrile, a polyamide, a polyolefin, a polystyrene, a vinyl polymer, a

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polypropylene, silk, a biopolymer, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 8. (cancelled)

Claim 9. (cancelled)

Claim 10. (cancelled)

Claim 11. (cancelled)

Claim 12. (cancelled)

Claim 13. (cancelled)

Claim 14. (cancelled)

Claim 15. (cancelled)

Claim 16. (cancelled)

Claim 17. (cancelled)

Claim 18. (cancelled)

Claim 19. (cancelled)

Claim 20. (cancelled)

Claim 21. (cancelled)

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Claim 22. (cancelled)

Claim 23. (cancelled)

Claim 24. (cancelled)

Claim 25. (cancelled)

Claim 26. (cancelled)

Claim 27. (cancelled)

Claim 28. (cancelled)

Claim 29. (cancelled)

Claim 30. (currently amended) A substrate coated with the antimicrobial of claim 146.

Claim 31. (cancelled)

Claim 32. (new) The substrate of Claim 30, wherein the substrate is selected from a group consisting of personal care products, health care products, household products, food preparation surfaces, food packaging surfaces, medical devices, wound dressings, surgical staples, membranes, shunts, surgical gloves, tissue patches, prosthetic devices, wound drainage tubes, blood collection and transfer devices, tracheotomy devices, intraocular lenses, laboratory devices, textile products and painted surfaces.

Claim 33. (new) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 1, further comprising a carrier selected from the group consisting of a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and industrially acceptable carrier, a household product, and a personal care composition.

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Claim 34. (new) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial peptide terminates the growth of the microbe.

Claim 35. (new) The antimicrobial peptide of claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial peptide is administered topically.